

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
380 HILLSDALE AVENUE
HILLSDALE, NJ 07642
201-666-4800 X1560**

**HILLSDALE RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF November 2nd, 2017**

Attendance: Dewey Burleson, John Noone, Rob Ricco, Ann Cron, Deborah Szabo

Rec Director: Patty Hughes

Councilman: Anthony DeRosa

Guests in attendance:

Baseball: Abby Lundy, John Stanberry

Soccer: Scott P

Lacrosse: Mike

Dewey called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and Rob seconded this motion

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: October Accepted by Deb and seconded by Rob

Chairman Statement

Dewey says he has 2 meetings left on his term and talks about all that has been accomplished this year and what we have left to accomplish

Permit Approval

No permits given to Dewey at this time to sign off.

The review of the Halloween parade was positive. Patty mentions the tree lighting will be on December 6th this year starting at 7:00PM. John Noone is taking the lead on this and needs to arrive around 6:30PM.

Dewey's topic for discussion

The recreation committee is recommending a walk path to the council for Memorial Park. We would like to see an Eagle Scout project or grant help pay for this request. It is believed it could be a 2 year process and would like the momentum to continue onto improving Beechwood Park as well. Dewey will put a proposal together to share at next month's meeting.

The council recently proposed a bike path around Centennial field linking it to Sapienza Gardens. By ordinance this request should have come through the recreation committee and not through the council only. In the same vain the committee would like all Eagle Scout projects effecting parks to come through the recreation committee as well. Councilman DeRosa mentions that he has made this clear to the council in the past and will work on emphasizing it in the future.

There was discussion of proposing new rates for field usage. These costs are incurred by outside organizations. The current cost is 50 dollars a game and 75 with the lights on. The new proposed cost by Dewey is 50 for practice or game and 150 for practice or game with lights. There is discussion of doing a bulk deal however Patty says once a price is in the ordinance it should be kept to. She also agrees that practices should be paid for not just games. Deb suggests a flat fee for the season. Abby suggests holding off on this due to the fact the town may accept money from the county since they are applying for a Green Acre grant. In this case the county may have a say on the field cost. Dewey still wants to give his cost recommendation. There is discussion on the fact that there is no ordinance regarding field use and who needs a permit. The committee is thinking it can be defined by 10 or more people using the field at once. Patty is also gathering information on how much other towns charge for field usage.

Coaching certifications has been an ongoing subject for the recreation committee and tonight it was discussed again. It was decided there will be a no tolerance policy going forward if a coach is not fully certified they cannot be on the field with the children. Patty relayed the information she received regarding the finger printing truck. They would come only with a guaranteed 40 people on a Mon-Fri between the hours of 9-5. This is not very helpful for working adults. In the end the burden falls on the sports association to make sure their coaches have their proper documents. John Stanberry mentions he wants to keep his own records in order to make sure his coaches are compliant. Per the committee this is fine but the information should be provided to Patty as well.

Dewey suggests there should be a formal agreement between the Board of Education and the recreation committee defining each other's rights and responsibilities. Scott and his soccer association would like to have access to Smith school next fall. Dewey is hoping an agreement with the BOE can help facilitate that happening. Anthony suggests the BOE may want money to use the school due to liability and parking issues.

Patty says she attended a meeting with community pass to discuss adding more modules to the current system. One module would help track field usage. The usage would be added to a calendar. The other would help keep track of all coaching documentation. The sports associations are in favor of this. There is discussion of who will have access to what functions of what modules versus read only. The borough administrator told Patty to move forward with this.

Tribe Volunteers – John Noone is working on this project. He says he needs to know exactly what the goal of this program should be and some volunteer ideas. John has spoken to the guidance counselor of the high school. Patty suggests suggest taking a survey at the next senior lunch to see what their needs are.

Council Liaison – Anthony DeRosa

Anthony introduces Joh Deluca who will be the new student member of the rec committee replacing David D. He plays baseball and is the sports editor at the high school newspaper. He is a junior and looking forward to helping and attending meetings.

Anthony confirms with Patty that the entertainment for the tree lighting ceremony has been adjusted from last year. This year there will be a prayer, a choir and a DJ.

Rec Directors Report – Patty Hughes

Patty reports that they received donations of candy canes from ShopRite, coffee from Starbucks and donuts and hot chocolate from dunkin donuts for the tree lighting ceremony.

November 14th is the baseball draft between Riverdale and Hillsdale

November 15th is the next senior luncheon

Mens basketball only has a total of 12 players this year.

Patty is interested in starting an indoor soccer league for children K-2, however she needs someone to run it. The soccer association is not interested in running it at this time. They do believe there is a need as not every child in that age group makes it onto a team.

Sports Association-

Scott wants to know the protocol on requesting updates to the fields. He is told to send an email to Dewey with his wants and he will recommend improvements to the council. Scott is curious as to what part the DPW plays in the care of the fields

John makes it known that he wants the fields and sports to be like they were in the past when families enjoyed the games. He believes Memorial Field should be a focus.

Rob motions to close the meeting and seconded by Ann

Meeting adjourned, 8:17 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Anides

Next meeting, December 7th, 2017, 7:00pm